Infering the selective pressures acting on insertions and deletions in the great tit genome

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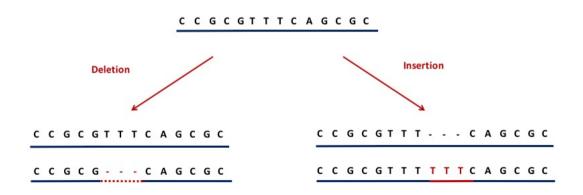
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Insertions and deletions

▶ short INDELs: sections of DNA < 50bp that are deleted or inserted in a genome



INDELs often overlooked

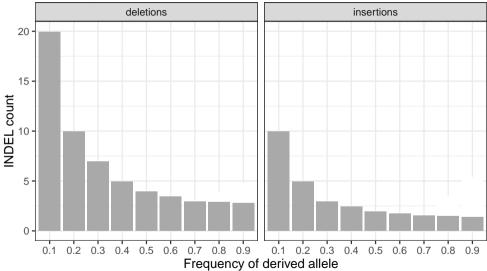
- Disproportionately occur in repetitive sequence
- Hard to align
- ► Often occur in hotspots
- ▶ 1/8 as frequent as SNPs in humans

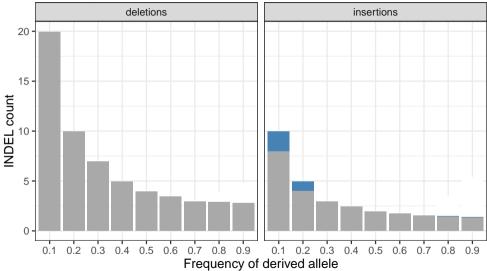
(Earl et al., 2014; Montgomery et al., 2013)

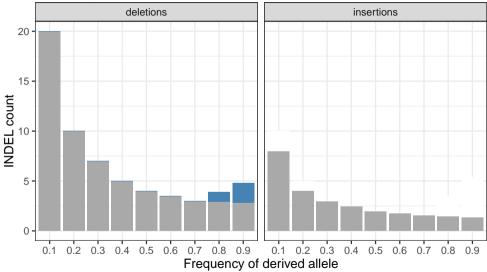
The importance of INDELs in genome evolution

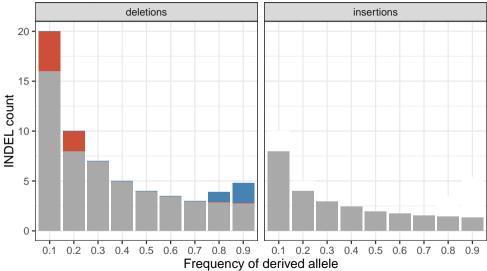
- Contribute more to sequence divergence, in terms of the number of base differences, than SNPs
- Influence genome size:
 - ▶ low deletion rate → large genomes?
 - ▶ high deletion rate → compact genomes?
- Selection on insertions to maintain minimum intron size?
- Picture is complicated by errors identifying ancestral states

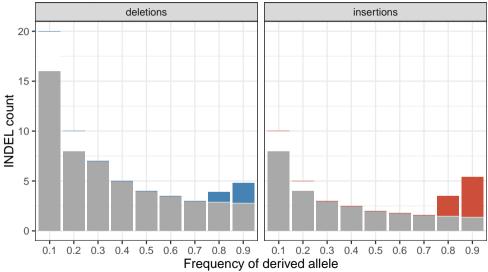
(Britten, 2002; Leushkin and Bazykin, 2013; Nam and Ellegren, 2012; Ometto et al., 2005; Sun et al., 2012)

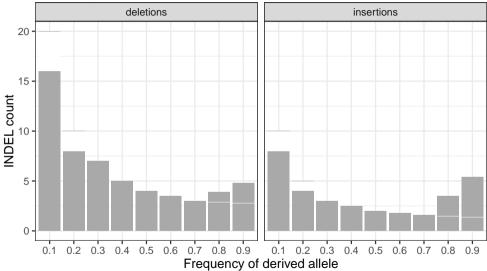












Aims

Quantify how natural selection shapes INDEL diversity in the great tit (Parus major)

- 1. within coding regions
- 2. in non-coding regions



Advantages of an avian system

- Conserved karyotype and synteny good for alignments
- Genomes consist of few large macrochromosomes and many small microchromosomes
- ► Results in a highly dynamic recombination landscape power to associations with recombination



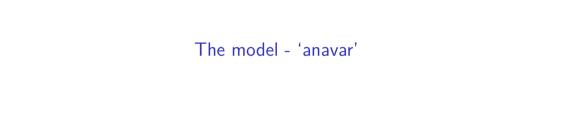
(van Oers et al., 2014; Stapley et al., 2008)

Data

Sample and pipeline

- ▶ 10 european great tit males (Corcoran et al., 2017)
- ► high coverage (44x)
- variant calling with GATK
- multispecies alignment between zebra finch, flycatcher and great tit
- parsimony based polarisation





A novel maximum likelihood approach

- takes the unfolded site frequency spectrum
- estimates for both insertions and deletions:
 - mutation rate $(\theta = 4N_e\mu)$
 - the distribution of fitness effects (DFE)
 - polarisation error
- ► Controls for demography using neutral sites (Eyre-Walker et al., 2006)
- Applicable to both INDELs and SNPs or a combination

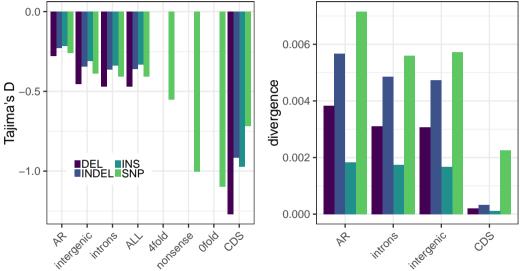
(Barton and Zeng, 2018)

the model DFEs

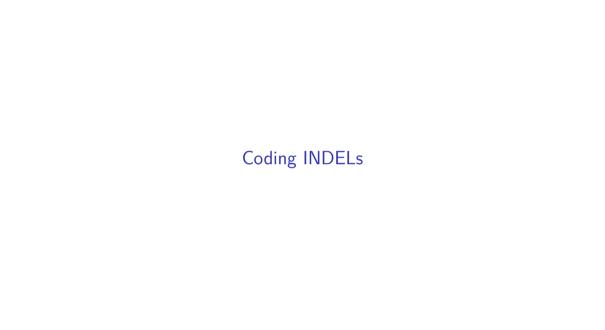
(Barton and Zeng, 2018)



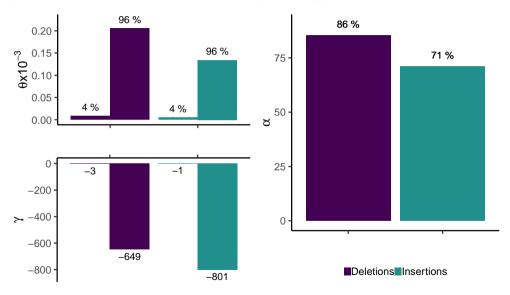
Regional variation in purifying selection

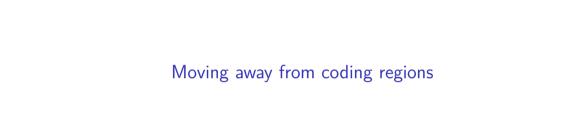


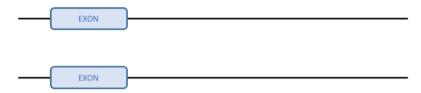
For SNPs: divergence = divergence estimate / 10

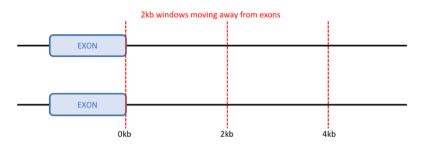


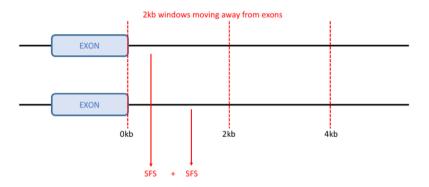
Polymorphic INDELs predominantly strongly deleterious

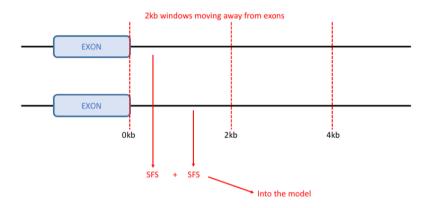




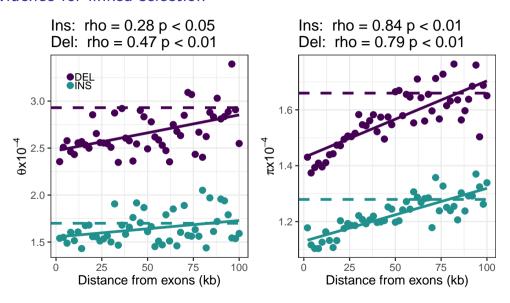






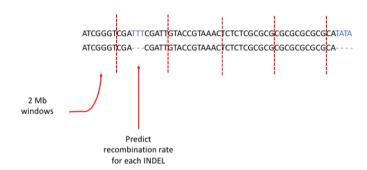


Evidence for linked selection

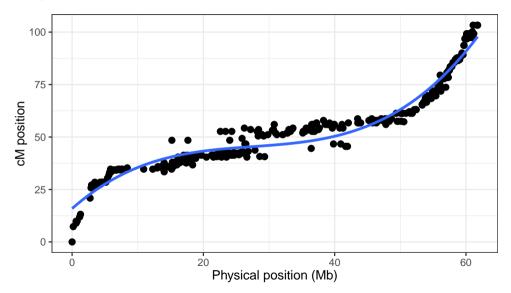


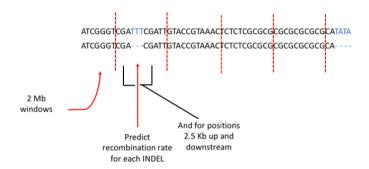


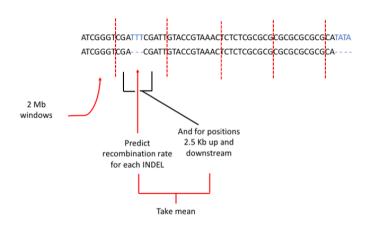


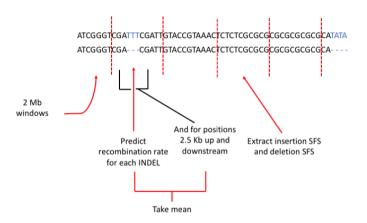


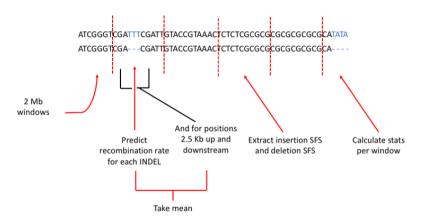
Getting the data - recombination rate



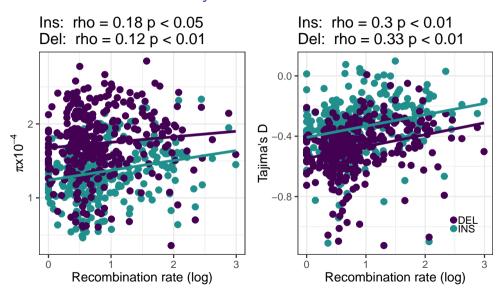








Association between diversity and recombination





Conclusion

- ▶ INDELs in genes mostly extremely deleterious 96%
- ▶ Remainder are weakly deletrious deletions more so
- ightharpoonup lpha estimate at 71% and 86% for insertions and deletions
- ► Regions adjacent to exons, and areas of low recombination, have reduced INDEL diversity genetic hitch-hiking
- Extends over relatively large distance 0-100kb

Next steps

purifying selection

Look at whether efficacy of selection on INDELs is higher in regions with higher N

▶ Intersting to investigate if reduced diversity is is due to postive selection or

lacktriangle Look at whether efficacy of selection on INDELs is higher in regions with higher $N_{
m e}$

Plug for the model

- ▶ User friendly computer package anavar
- http://zeng-lab.group.shef.ac.uk
- ▶ Methods are applicable to both INDELs and SNPs or a combination

